

Quality Assurance

1. The DD Act requires Councils to include activities in each Five-Year Plan to:
 - a) Support a State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities.
 - Previously, the Council provided funding support to People First of Louisiana. Recently, the Council assisted with funding their bi-annual conference.
 - b) Support leadership training for individuals with developmental disabilities.
 - The Council has funded Partners in Policymaking for self-advocates and parents of young children with developmental disabilities since 1991.
 - The 2025, Partners in Policymaking class began with 18 attendees, including seven self-advocates.
 - Since 1991, 552 advocates have graduated, including 105 self-advocates.
 - Currently, there are 8 Council members who are Partners graduates, including 3 self-advocates.
 - The Council has funded the Louisiana Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) for three years.
 - Since 2023, there have been 34 graduates.
 - In 2025, 4 YLF alumni returned as staff, 3 joined Partners in Policymaking, and 1 sits on the Council.
 - c) Support participation of individuals with developmental disabilities on boards and committees, etc.
 - Current activity: Provide information and support for participation of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in cross disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions and advisory bodies.
2. LaCAN
 - Provides information to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and policy makers on services and programs available in the state.
 - Provides advocacy and leadership training and technical assistance to members, their organization leaders, and Families Helping Families Directors.
 - Leaders help facilitate legislative visits between constituents and policymakers to discuss issues affecting the developmental disability community.